the Prime Minister's recent visit to Moscow and the decisions arrived at;

(b) whethe, any decision has been 'taken on the debt settlement; and

(c) if so, what are the details and if not, what is the present status of the matter?

'THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI R. L. BHATIA): (a) Prime Minister's discussions with Russian leaders in Moscow were wide-ranging and prtductive. International and regional issues of mutual interest were discussed. Particular attention was paid to the development of bilateral cooperation in the political, economic, commercial, defence, science and technology and other fields. Declarations of the protection of the inerests of pluralistic state and on the further development and intensification of bijateral ties and a number of important documents covering tourism, science and technology, information technology, space, environment, standardisation, meteorology, and defence-related co-operation were signed. An understanding was arrived at on overcoming obstacles in the defence sector. It was also agreed to give particular focus to interaction in the field of culture.

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oeitt were finalis-"93, The modalities of the utilisation of the Rupee balance^ against debt .repayments was discussed during Prime Minis-r's visit t$_0$ Moscow. It was agreed that a' 2-3 year ■ perspective plan would be drawn up in respect of tea, tobacco, soyabean shoe uoper and pharmaceuticals so that thexe is greater predictability and certainty o£ upliftment of these items from year to year. Rupee balances would be used for imports of Indian goods i»to Russia and for investing in agreed projects in India and Russia.

Foreign Ministerial talks on illegal emigrants upon India *and* Bangladesh

176. SHRI AJIT P. K. JOGI: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the issue relating to [illegible]turn of the illegal Bangladeshi [illegible]grants was discussed during his recent talks with the foreign Ministe[illegible]ngladesh; and

(b) if so, the outcome thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI R. L. BHATIA): (a) and (b) [illegible] In April, 1993, External Affa[illegible]er while conveying our concerns stressed the need for stemming illegal immigration from Bangladesh into India. The Bangladeshi side noted that the Joint Working Group comprising senior officials of both sides has since been tasked to recommend measures to resolve this issue.

Talks [illegible]ween India a[illegible]adesh

177. SHRI [illegible] JOGI: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Prime Minister held any talks w[illegible] leaders of Bangladesh durin[illegible]ent visit to that country in connection with the SAARC summit;

(b) if so, the broad outcome thereof;

(c) whether the issue of sharing of Ganga water also figured in the talks; and

(d) if so, the oucome thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI B. L. BHATIA): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. In April 1993, he Dhaka SAARC Summit, bilateral were discussed by the Prime Minister with the Prime Min ister of Bangladesh and included sharing of Ganga waters, boundary demarcatiin matter, repatriation oS Chakma refugees setting up of rail linkj n ion of bilateral trade. Both sides had a better appreciaich other's viewpoint, and they agreed to continue efforts to itually acceptable solutions. (e) and (d) Ye \jsue of sharing of Ganga waters, it was foposals for an equita- comprehensive - emer.t would be developed by ideg and on : subject would continue.

Atomic

173. SHRI RAMNATH KOVIND: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that recently China has conducted series of Atomic test explosions;

(b) if so, whether Government have realised its impact on security of our country; and

(c) whether Government would reconsider its options in regard to the manufacture of Atomic weapons to safeguard the country's security?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIR L. BHATIA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) Government keep under constant review all developments which have a bearing on national security. Government's consistent position has been that India's nuclear programme is only for peaceful purposes.

Indo-Russian political declaration

179. SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state the Is of the political declarations signed by Prime Minister ;tf 4ncSa and the Russian President during former's recent visit to Russia recently?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI Ri. L. BHATIA): The two Declarations signed during Prime Minister's visit to Russia from June to 2 July, 1994 are the Moscow Declaration *or*\ the Protec tion of the Interests of Pluralistic States the Declaration ou the Further Development and Intensifica tion ol ation Between the Re public of India and the Russian Fed- . ion.

The Moscow Declaration recognises that India and Russia are large, variegated and heterogenous societies with multi-ethnic, multi-cultural, multi-religious and multi-lingual societies. They face common challenges from such destablising forces as aggressive nationalism, political extremism, religious exclusivism, trans-border terrorism and separatism, which seek to undermine their unity and territorial integrity. It calls upon the international community to respect the territorial integrity of pluralistic states. A copy of the Moscow Declaration is given in the annexure. [*See Appendix* 171, Annexure No. 5].

The Declaration on the Further Development and Intensification of Cooperation between the Republic of India and the Russian Federation is a bilateral document and underlines the similarity and in many cases, identity of views between India and Russia on many international and regional issues. It also sets out the future directions and priority of bilateral cooperation. A copy of this